NPS Metadata Tools & Editor

A Comprehensive Editing Tool for National Park Service Metadata

The NPS Metadata Tools & Editor is a custom software application for authoring and editing National Park Service (NPS) metadata. It extends the basic functionality of ESRI's ArcCatalog© for managing geospatial metadata and provides a stand- alone tool for creating and manipulating non- spatial metadata outside of ArcCatalog©. The Tools & Editor is intended to be the primary editor for NPS metadata that will be uploaded to the NPS NR & GIS Data Store. While not specifically designed for users external to the NPS, the Tools and Editor features a number of powerful metadata editing capabilities that any metadata author is likely to find useful.
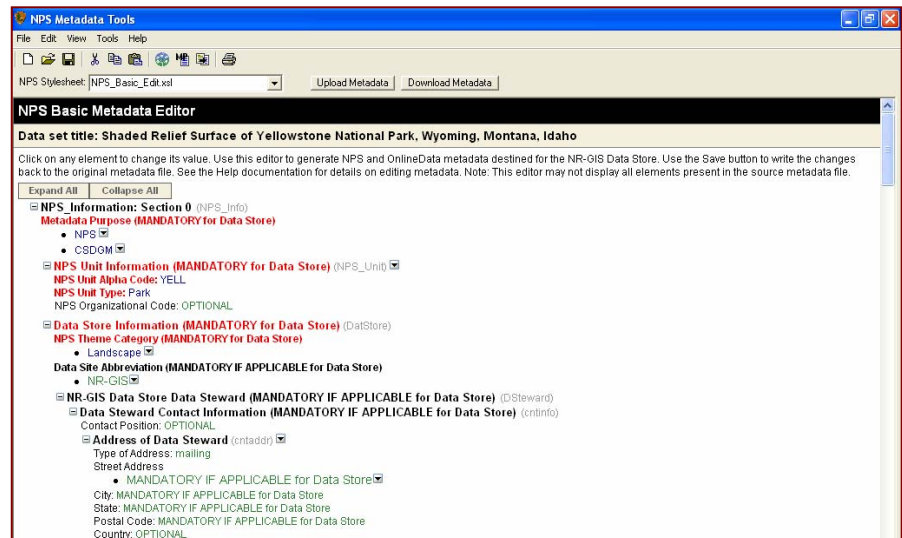
Metadata Editing

Like ArcCatalog©, the Tools and Editor uses stylesheets to display XML metadata. Special editing stylesheets provide the ability to create or edit metadata. Each stylesheet is tailored to a particular type of metadata and displays only the elements or sections pertinent to that metadata type. NPS- specific stylesheets are based on the NPS Profile metadata extension that contains all elements in the FGDC, ESRI, and Biological metadata standards and profiles plus NPS- specific elements.

Metadata Tools

The following is a sample of metadata management tools in the Tools & Editor:

- Parse with MP: a Windows© form allowing the user to easily configure and run Metadata Parser (MP) without leaving the Tools & Editor work session (i.e., no DOS command line).
- Import ITIS metadata: import taxonomic metadata from the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) into a

The NPS Metadata Tools & Editor is a custom metadata application that runs either within ArcCatalog© or in a stand-alone environment. It integrates with the NPS NR & GIS Data Store and provides many powerful metadata management and editing features.

Biological Profile metadata file.

- Metadata Template: create a metadata template by "harvesting" elements from an existing metadata file.
- Update with Template: Import/update selected metadata elements from any metadata template or file to one or more selected files.
- Spellcheck: check spelling in a metadata file using Microsoft Word's spell checker.
- Find and Replace: Searches folders and subfolders for metadata files containing specified text and substitutes with the specified replace text.
- Search Metadata: Search folders and subfolders for metadata files containing specific strings.
- Metadata Catalog: creates a Microsoft Access database that stores the location, filename and other information about all metadata files in a selected directory.

Future Plans

A number of improvements are planned for version 2.0 of the Tools and Editor including:

- Harvesting of entity and attribute (data dictionary) metadata from database and spreadsheet files.
- Tighter integration with the NR & GIS Data Store using web services technology.
- Identical functionality between the ArcCatalog© and stand- alone versions.

Links:

NPS Metadata Tools & Editor homepage:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrgis/tools/editor.cfm
Data Store homepage:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata
The NPS Profile metadata extension:
http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/docs/npsprofile.cfm